

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~hydraulic shock absorber for a vehicle front fork for a motorcycle~~, comprising:

a slide ~~member~~ pipe slidably provided within a cylinder tube; and

a working fluid chamber provided within the cylinder tube and the slide ~~member~~ pipe,

wherein

~~a guide bush~~ upper and lower guide bushes coated with a polytetrafluoroethylene and an

oil seal sealing the fluid chamber disposed in an inner periphery of the cylinder tube so as to be in slide contact with an outer peripheral surface of the slide ~~member~~ pipe, and

an amorphous hard carbon film disposed on the outer peripheral surface of the slide ~~member~~ pipe.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~hydraulic shock absorber for a vehicle front fork for a motorcycle~~ according to claim 1, wherein grooves having a fine depth and holding the working fluid are formed in ~~a net shape~~ on a surface of the amorphous hard carbon film.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~hydraulic shock absorber for a vehicle front fork for a motorcycle~~ according to claim 2, wherein the ~~net shaped~~ grooves have a depth between 0.09 and 0.2 μm .

4-20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) A front fork for a motorcycle, comprising:

a slide pipe slidably provided within a cylinder tube; and

a working fluid chamber provided within the cylinder tube and the slide pipe, wherein

upper and lower guide bushes coated with a polytetrafluoroethylene and an oil seal sealing the fluid chamber disposed in an inner periphery of the cylinder tube so as to be in slide contact with an outer peripheral surface of the slide pipe,

the front fork having a low speed operation range wherein the friction generated between the slide pipe and the oil seal is greater than the friction generated between the slide pipe and the bush, and a high speed operation range wherein the friction generated between the slide pipe and the bush is greater than the friction generated between the slide pipe and the oil seal, and

an amorphous hard carbon film disposed on the outer peripheral surface of the slide pipe.

22. (New) The front fork for a motorcycle according to claim 3, wherein grooves having a fine depth and holding the working fluid are formed in a net shape on a surface of the amorphous hard carbon film.

~~23. (New) The front fork for a motorcycle according to claim 22, wherein the grooves have a depth between 0.09 and 0.2 μm .~~

24. (New) The front fork for a motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein an average roughness of the amorphous hard carbon film surface formed on the outer peripheral surface of the slide pipe is $R_a = 7.3 \text{ \AA}$.

25. (New) The front fork for a motorcycle according to claim 2, wherein an average roughness of the amorphous hard carbon film surface formed on the outer peripheral surface of the slide pipe is $R_a = 7.3 \text{ \AA}$.

26. (New) The front fork for a motorcycle according to claim 2, wherein the low speed operation range is from 0.01 m/sec to 0.1 m/sec and the high speed operation range is more than 0.1 m/sec.